Identification of Medically Important Filamentous Fungi

September 14–15, 2006 in Omaha, NE
October 26–27, 2006 in St. Paul, MN
A wet workshop sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Health Public Health Laboratory, Nebraska Public Health Laboratory and National Laboratory Training Network

DESCRIPTION

Distinguishing morphologic characteristics remains fundamental to identification of medically important filamentous fungi. Dr. James L. Harris will review the major groups of molds, emphasizing the more commonly encountered species. Participants will have the opportunity to prepare and microscopically study tease mounts of more than fifty filamentous fungi and compare these with mounted slide culture preparations. Organisms to be discussed include the agents of systemic fungal disease, common agents of subcutaneous infections, rapid growing zygomycetes, and numerous opportunistic fungi.

AUDIENCE

This intermediate-level program is intended for laboratorians working in clinical or public health microbiology laboratories who identify pathogens that cause mycologic diseases.

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this program, the participants will be able to

- List the salient features of the four major groups of filamentous fungi.
- Prepare and examine tease mounts of fungi.
- Explain successful preservation and safe handling of filamentous fungi.
- Identify significant characteristics of many common molds.

AGENDA

Day One

7:45 a.m.	Registration
8:15 a.m.	Introduction to Filamentous Fungi
8:20 a.m.	Morphology, Terminology, and Fundamentals of Grouping Fungi
9:45 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m.	Basic Culture Techniques; Media Considerations; Specimen Handling; Safety in the Mycology Laboratory
11:00 a.m.	Dealing with Dermatophytes
12 noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	"Black Fungi"; Selected Agents of Subcutaneous Infections (Includes 15-minute break)
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Day Two

8:15 a.m.	Review of Course Progress
8:20 a.m.	Agents of Systemic Mycoses
9:45 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m.	Zygomycetes
11:15 a.m.	*Aspergillus* and *Penicillium*
12 noon	*Lunch*
1:00 p.m.	*Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* (continued)
2:15 p.m.	Break
2:30 p.m.	Culture Storage, Handling Contamination and Mites; Troubleshooting
3:30 p.m.	Discussion and Evaluation
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn

FACULTY Jim Harris, Ph.D.

Dr. Harris is the Training Coordinator for the Texas Department of State Health Services, a clinical instructor in Medical Technology for the School of Health Professions, Texas State University in San Marcos, TX, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Austin.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.® Program. Participants who successfully complete this program will be awarded 13.5 contact hours.

REGISTRATION $160.00 (payable to APHL) Registration Deadline: Aug. 31, 2006 for Omaha, NE and Oct. 12, 2006 for St. Paul, MN

Register online at http://www.nltn.org/courses. (*If you have difficulty with the online registration process, please send an e-mail registrar@aphl.org or phone 240-485-2727.)* Upon receipt of your registration, a confirmation letter will be sent by e-mail to registered participants. For additional program information, send an e-mail to the Chicago Office at mwoffice@nltn.org or phone 312.793.3306.

SPECIAL NEEDS

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals requiring special accommodations should notify the NLTN office at 312.793.3306 at least three weeks before the program.

LOCATION

September 14–15, 2006, Nebraska Public Health Laboratory in Omaha, NE
October 26–27, 2006, Minnesota Department of Health Public Health Laboratory in St. Paul, MN
Detailed location information will be provided in your confirmation letter.